

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Owen Township was held at the Owen Township Hall on July 7th, 2026, at 7 p.m.

The following Trustees were present:

Sid Moate, Supervisor

Mark Smith

Tom Lawson

Jeffrey Arnold

Jen Grady

The following other known people were present:

Susan Barnes, Township Clerk

Charles Barnes, Highway Commissioner

Dana Lemke, Township Assessor

Resident: Bill Heyrin

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Sid Moate. After leading the Pledge of Allegiance, he called for public comment. Resident Bill Heyrin asked the trustees if there were any further updates on Bergstrom easement. Supervisor Moate asked Trustee Lawson to address the question, and he stated that he has seen the Winnebago County Engineer twice to discuss the easement, discussion ensued. Bill Heyrin asked if there was a process to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph, due to the additional traffic coming from River Keys. Charles Barnes addressed it and explained the process.

Supervisor Sid Moate called for review of the June 2026 meeting minutes. Seeing no further discussion, a motion to approve the June 2026 minutes Trustee Tom Lawson made the motion to approve the minutes as presented and Trustee Jeffrey Arnold seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Next, Supervisor Sid Moate discussed old business, asking Charles Barnes to discuss the Solar panels installed earlier today. Charles Barnes discussed the truck has been pushed back another month, Sealcoating of Favor Rd is on schedule to be completed this month. Healthy tree limb came down on Haley Rd covering the street and was cleaned up immediately. Discussed a car involved with the limb coming down, causing significant amount of damage to the vehicle and the operator was seen at the hospital.

For new business, Supervisor Moate discussed the plan to transfer funds from foresight to Rockford Community Bank. Trustee Mark Smith approved the transfer, Trustee Lawson seconded the transfer and an all-aye vote was cast.

Supervisor Sid Moated stated the current balance of the General Assistance Fund is \$51,177.27, and the Township Fund balance is \$45,859.22, but 2 checks from the county treasurer's office for property tax payments have been received for a total of 83,363.76 bring the Township Fund balance up to \$129,222.98.

Following the discussion the Supervisor called for review of the Township bills, Trustee Tom Lawson moved to approve the Township bills in the amount of \$13,438.77, seconded by Trustee Jeffrey Arnold, approved with an all-aye vote. The Road and Bridge bills in the amount of \$3,275.19 and the Hard Road bills in the amount of \$4,116.87 were all found to be in order.

Dana Lemke, Township Assessor, stated assessment books have been turn into the Supervisor and they will be posted at the end of July on the Supervisor's website. The assessments are only mailed out every 4 years. The Assessor also informed the trustees that we might receive a notice about changes to the exemption code for the old church, only a change to the code not to the exemption status.

Supervisor Moate discussed the Owen Center Project and the projected timeline, unclear if it will be started this year or next.

With no further business to discuss, the July 7th, 2026, monthly meeting was called to adjourn by Trustee Tom Lawson and seconded by Trustee Mark Smith, an all-aye vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE Sept 1st, 2026, AT 7 P.M. AT THE OWEN TOWNSHIP BUILDING, 4019 LATHAM RD. ROCKFORD, IL.

Respectfully Submitted by

Susan Barnes,

Owen Township Clerk